

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int. Classification No.
PCT/EP/03/08988

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C22C38/18 C22C38/20 C22C38/22 B60S1/32 C21D9/02

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C22C B60S C21D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 022 640 A (TANCZYN HARRY) 10 May 1977 (1977-05-10) column 2, line 38-45; claims 1-4	1-14
A	EP 1 106 705 A (NIPPON STEEL CORP) 13 June 2001 (2001-06-13) claims 1-4; table 1	1-14
A	US 4 594 115 A (LACOUDE MICHEL ET AL) 10 June 1986 (1986-06-10) claims 1-10	1-14
A	WO 96 11483 A (CRS HOLDINGS INC) 18 April 1996 (1996-04-18) page 7, line 20-23; claims 1-12	1-14

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

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'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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'&' document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

19 December 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

02/01/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No
PCT/JP 03/08988

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